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TERMS OF THE DAILY. Single copy, 3 cents, to be delivered by carriage (per week) 15 cents; subscription by mail (one year) $10 00.

Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

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VOL. VIII. PITTSBURGH, THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29, 1870. NO. 87.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M

THE WAR.

The Bombardment of Fort Avron.

Faidherbe Suspends Operations

Movements of General Bourbaki

PRUSSIAN OCCUPATION OF ST. CALAIS.

Prussian Vandalism Complained of.

BAVARIA REJECTS THE FEDERAL TREATIES.

Protection of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles.

Sharp Engagement Near Havre.

Retreat of the Prussians.

FRANCE.

Faidherbe Suspends Operations on Account of the Weather.

BORDEAUX, December 28.—General Faidherbe, in a dispatch to the Minister of War, announces that owing to the intense coldness of the weather, he will encamp his troops near Arras, and await the prosecution of a general movement throughout France for the relief of Paris and the deliverance of France. The weather in Southern France is intensely cold.

The Prussians cannonaded the town of St. Calais on the 25th, and then entered the place, where they committed many disorders. General Chanzy sent a formal protest to the Prussian General, and subsequently issued an order of the day to his troops, in which he says he has moved the Prussians against the further perpetration of such horrible crimes as they have committed on unarmed places and people, and he expects from his merit better treatment to enemy because of their humanity to the Prussian sick and wounded." General Chanzy is thus plainly evident that France is not combatting loyal enemies, but a desolating horde, and he will continue the struggle to preserve her honor and independence.

Excitement in Havre—Severe Engagement.

Special to the Herald.]

HAVRE, December 26.—Since Saturday evening the city has been intensely excited over the first important struggle between the French troops of the department and the Prussians, which occurred Saturday morning at day break. Although without any decisive result, it is regarded valuable as proof of the efficiency of the infantry and the capacity of the Mobiles and tireurs. After a number of engagements and skirmishes with the Uhlans and Saxons, the people became clamorous for a grand sortie. Accordingly on the 19th, the Garde Nationale, consisting a column of 5,000 men pressed from Honfleur. The force consisted of 2,000 Mobiles, 300 tireurs, one battery of regular artillery, two field pieces, two mitrailleuse and five Armstrong guns. This army under command of Colonel Mourgeard, arrived at Chateau Monliese on the 23d, and established their headquarters and sent out advanced posts. The troops were in the best state of discipline and spirits, and were prepared for a reconnoisance in force by day break. The 24th was one of the coldest days of the winter, and this day the 3rd Battalion of Mobiles, were first driven in by the soldiers and the Prussian cavalry. Large numbers are moving on the chateau at a rapid pace. Alarm is sounded and the troops formed in line, the artillery pushing forward and the Mobiles and tireurs behaved well, handling their artillery and ammunition with alacrity, and opened a brisk fire on the attack. The affair promised to be warm and interesting. At half-past seven the battle was begun by the advance Prussian forces, which were soon preceded by a battery of artillery. They were received by the French artillery, which opened a furious cannonade and made it not work for the assailants. It soon became apparent that the French guns were well placed, and splendidly worked, but not sufficiently supported. The wings fire created a considerable confusion among the Germans, whose lines wavered, but they kept up the fire. Three advances were made by the Prussian to capture the French batteries, but each time were compelled to retire. This unsuccessful fight with the French right lasted two hours. Then a large body of Prussian infantry, preceded by a line of cavalry, appeared on the road to Fontenay, coming to the support of the enemy. A council was held on the battle-field, in which the Germans determined on a fall back on Honfleur. The force now occupied the heights commanding Rabbe with a battery which could have easily swept the plain with so much obstinacy for political motives, but really with a fair chance of obtaining an honorable peace. Paris is safe for a long time. The entire nation is armed or arming. Arms are abundant. England is now offering more than we want. All political partizans determined to allow the Government to do its best for national defense, will approve its policy for results. The defeat of the army of the Loire has not seriously changed the comparative strength. The troops have gained confidence and experience to prepare them for better things. England, the Count thinks, has not elevated herself by her recent course into fundamental matters. She makes the same mistake that France made in 1866. By allowing Prussia to destroy, she could bring about an honorable peace. Her delay has permitted Russia to insult her, and make ample preparation for war. France is now struggling for existence, and if she fails, England will feel the loss more than any other power. Russia will then do what she pleases in the East, and Prussia in the West. England will thus be reduced to a third rate power. The Count concluded by a denunciation of the cowardly course of Italy, and said her day of reckoning would surely come.

The Late Sortie—Life in Paris.

A special dispatch from Versailles of the 22d inst. shows that Paris yet retains some of her old brilliancy. The necessary business of the day is conducted as gaily as usual, the theatres, concerts, cafe and omnibuses ply the streets, and shop windows display their tempting arrays just as in former times.

The sortie of a few days ago was a gallant effort, but was completely repelled. It was bold in its conception but feeble in its execution, when only seven thousand troops men engaged, besides gunboats and upwards of two hundred guns, and the command was given on the earthworks. The German losses were insignificant.

Capture of Fort Avron.

NEW YORK, December 28.—A dispatch has just been received from Versailles announcing the capture of Fort Avron, six miles east of the center of Paris, by the Germans yesterday, after a severe bombardment.

The funeral of Rev. Collins Stone, late Principal of the American Asylum for Deaf and Dumb, who was killed at Hartford, Connecticut, by the cars last Friday, took place yesterday, Rev. Mr. Gould making the funeral address. The pupils of the American Asylum occupied the galleries of the church, and Mr. Gould's address and prayer were interpreted to them by Professor Bartlett by signs.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

The New Spanish Foreign Minister—Relations Between the United States and Great Britain, &c., &c.

Queen Victoria's Matrimonial Alliance.

LONDON, December 28.—It is rumored that the Prussian court has expressed disapproval of Queen Victoria's matrimonial alliance between Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne.

England and the United States.

The Pall Mall Gazette warns Englishmen that they cannot do worse than persist in the idea that the people of the United States are friendly to England. At any moment a few Americans may inflict an intolerable insult on the British Government.

Sagosta Minister of Foreign Affairs.

MADRID, December 28.—Senor Sagosta has taken the post of Foreign Minister, and not as before stated that of President of the Council.

What King Amadeus Gets.

MADRID, December 28.—The Royal Civil List gives the King 6,000,000 francs annually, and makes him heir to half the palaces of the kingdom.

Marine News.

GLASGOW, December 28.—The steamship India, from New York, touched at Moville yesterday.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

A Passenger Train Tumbled Down an Embankment—Two Persons Killed and Twelve Injured.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PITTSBURGH CENTER, PA., December 28, 1870.

A dispatch from Meadville states that the morning mail train No. 8, bound West on the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, ran off the track near Sextons, Pa., and went over a bank fifty feet. Two persons were killed and ten or twelve wounded. The passengers on the train were mostly emigrants.

By Associated Press.]

CLEVELAND, December 28.—The Atlantic and Great Western mail train, bound west, this morning ran off the track about five miles west of Meadville, near Sutton's. The hind car, which was filled with emigrants, was thrown down an embankment fifty feet, turning over several times. One man named Hopkins was killed and two others badly injured, one of them not expected to recover. Fifteen others were slightly injured. The train was about two hours behind time, and was running very rapidly when the accident occured. The cause is not positive, but is generally supposed to be a poor rail, as one was found broken, and the ties entirely broken off. The injured were brought to Meadville.

CRIME.

CINCINNATI, December 28.—Robert Alexander was killed by James Wickersham at Harrodsburg, Ky., on Saturday. Wickersham, when pursued by officers, offered resistance, and was shot several times and dangerously wounded.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., December 28.—Jonathan Crandall, banks watchman of this city, 70 years old, was approached by two suspicious strangers this morning, when one of them shot him through the head. A set of burglar's tools was found this morning under the platform of the depot.

CLEVELAND, December 28.—The preliminary examination of Jas. McGehan, Daniel McGlenn, J. Jack Garner and Jacob Sheets, charged with the murder of Thomas Meyers, commenced to-day at Hamilton. George Clark testified that Meyers and Brewer were sitting at a table in the saloon, and when Tom McGehan came in. The latter walked up to the table laying his hands on Brewer's shoulders. A moment afterwards the witness saw a boulder drop over the table and Meyers head fall. Meyers must have been hit by it, but witness could not tell who threw it. Valentine Eastman testified that he saw the defendants go into the saloon two by two, within fifteen minutes. The morning examination failed to show who is the guilty party. The defendants are represented by Hon. C. L. Vallandigham, Judge Hume, Messrs. Milliken, Gilmore, Neil and R. Smith.

CHICAGO, December 28.—A special from St. Paul says the Indians are in force on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Some sub-contractors, named Gregg & Co., who were given a contract for three miles of the road, drew their pay from the contractors, Smith and Gould, and absconded without paying the men, who were getting $2 per day and board. The shanties, seized the wagons and stores and drove the General Superintendent from the ground. They were told that they would be paid for their work, but demanded, also, pay for the three days of the riot. This was refused. Upon the request of the Governor, General Hancock has sent orders to Fort Fetterman to hold all the troops that can be spared for the ringleaders, and pay off and discharge the rest of the men.

It turns out that Coroner Kennedy, whose dead body was discovered at No. 91 North Wells street, yesterday morning, was murdered. It is supposed Kennedy, while playing cards in the saloon adjoining the alley in which he was found, attempted to leave without paying his bill. A row ensued, and he was made an attempt to arrest him, when he rushed up stairs to the roof of the saloon and fell, or was thrown into the alley, causing his death. Those following him thought he had escaped, and were astonished when his dead body was found in the morning.

FIRES.

HUDSON, N. Y., December 28.—This morning a fire broke out in the United States Hotel at Valatie. The flames communicated to the stables and outbuildings adjoining, and all were destroyed. The loss will exceed $20,000.

Advices from Fort Smith, Arkansas, say that the brick block in that city, known as the officer's quarters, was burned on the 26th inst. It was occupied by Major Thompson, Assistant Adjutant of the post, his family, and the families of several other officers. Loss $50,000.

NEWARK, N. Y., December 27.—To-night the extensive paper machinery works, formerly owned by John L. Severns, and the boiler works of A. Caldwell, with two buildings covering over an acre of ground, were destroyed by fire. It originally took as follows: Homer Ramsdell, owner of the buildings, $100,000; Alexander Caldwell, $60,000; Severns Tate, $60,000; other occupants $40,000; partially insured. The fire is supposed to have communicated from the river furnaces.

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Rudolphe gives odds of five per cent. in a game of one thousand points up, for $5,000. The game began at half-past eight. Rudolphe played very carefully. Dion's early breaks were very unsuccessful. In the twenty-third inning, when Rudolphe made a run of 156, Dion objected that the ball he was playing with was not the proper round, and wanted it changed, but the referee, G. R. Hubbell, of Hartford, decided against this course. Total at the end of the twelfth inning, Dion 291, including the 100 points given him by Rudolphe; Rudolphe, 457; end of the forty-first inning, Dion, 773, Rudolphe 927; end of the fifty-ninth inning, Dion 1,014, Rudolphe 1,165; end of the fifty-sixth inning, Dion 1,215, Rudolphe 1,317; sixty-first inning, Dion 1,262, Rudolphe 1,354; sixty-fourth, Dion 1,406, Rudolphe 1,266; seventieth, Dion 1,614, Rudolphe 1,503; eighty-third, Dion 1,784, Rudolphe 1,595; ninety-fifth and last, Dion 2,001, Rudolphe 1,926. The largest run of the evening was 200 by Rudolphe in the first inning, 315. Dion's greatest run was 142.

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SECOND EDITION.

4 O'CLOCK, A. M.

WASHINGTON.

Imports and Exports for 1869-'70.

Important Decision in a Maryland Court in Regard to Secret Societies—Mr. Sumner Has No Copy of Motley's Letter—The President Sued—No Hope for the Recovery of Mrs. Belknap—Solicitor Weed Answers the Charges Against Him, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 28, 1870.

Imports and Exports.

The comparative statement of imports and exports for the first nine months of the year 1870 and 1869, furnished by the Bureau of Statistics, shows the following result. The figures all represent specie value:

Imports in 1869	$364,677,686
In 1870	378,894,989
Domestic exports in 1869	249,121,908
In 1870	226,072,064
Foreign imports in 1869	22,207,389
In 1870	25,143,538
Total exports in 1869	$271,329,297
In 1870	$251,215,764
Apparent adverse balance in 1869	93,348,389
In 1870	22,679,225
From the apparent adverse balance in 1869 should be deducted a balance of additions to bonded goods	29,856,656
To the apparent adverse balance in 1870 ought to be added the balance of withdrawals from bond	701,442
From the adverse balance in 1869	72,389,602
In 1870	23,380,666
The improvement in the nine months of the current year, compared with the corresponding months the last year, was	49,008,936

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Brownsville.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, PA., December 28, 1870.

River closed; snowy; thermometer 31 degrees at 5 P. M.

Greensboro.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial

GREENSBORO, December 28, 1870.

River closed, with five feet water in the channel. Weather snowing; thermometer 28 degrees at 6 P.

Morgantown.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MORGANTOWN, December 27, 1870.

River closed. Weather snowing; thermometer 34 degrees at 4 P. M.

Nashville Market.

NASHVILLE, December 28.—Cotton dull; low middling 26c. Bulk meats—clear sides 10½c; clear rib sides; shoulders 7½c. Rump pork $15. Lard 16½c. Bacon shoulders 11c, sides and clear 14c; sugar cured Ham 17c. Corn 70c. Oats 65c. Wheat No. 1 $1 Flour $4 20@6.

THE INDIANS.

The General Council at Ocmulgee—Resolutions of the Committee on Inter-Tribal Relations, &c., &c.

ST. LOUIS, December 28.—The *Republican* has a letter from Ocmulgee, Indian Territory, dated December 20, which gives the following synopsis of the proceedings of the Indian Council, in session there Resolutions were reported by the Committee on Inter-tribal relations to the following effect, and adopted, viz: That the Superintendent of the Southern and Central Indian Superintendencies, Enoch Hoag, be requested to inform, through their respective agents, the Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas, Comanches, etc., that the Cherokees, Chickasaws, etc., have met in general council and wish to extend to them assurances of their friendship and kindly feelings; of their desire that these wild tribes should maintain peace amongst themselves and with the government of the United States; that the object of this Council is to promote the general welfare of all the Indian residents in the Indian Territory and secure them lands exclusively to themselves and their children; that those now present desire that delegates from those wild tribes should hereafter meet them whenever practicable, and accordingly that the names in establishing and maintaining permanent friendly relations amongst themselves and with the people of the United States. G. W. Grayson, delegate from the Creek Nation, was elected permanent Secretary of the Council with the appointment of Columbus Archer. The Committee on Education made a report, of which the following is an abstract: The population of the Choctaw nation is between 16,000 and 17,000. They have forty-eight public schools, and will soon have forty-five more in course of erection. They have twenty youths at school in the States; annual school fund, thirty thousand dollars; whole number of children attending school, 1,460. Population of Cherokees, 17,000; annual school fund, about $50,000; they have forty-eight public schools, three of which are exclusively for colored children; whole number of pupils, 1,968; the orphans of the nation are boarded and clothed by the interest on the orphan fund; one mission school conducted by the Methodists, with about 100 scholars. Population of the Creeks 15,000; they have twenty-two public schools, and will soon have nine more under the management of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. They have one boarding school in operation, and another nearly completed, to which will accommodate eighty pupils. The superintendents of these boarding schools are by the Methodists and Presbyterians, and other expenses by the nation. Six of the schools are now exclusively for colored children. The annual school fund is about $25,000; average number of pupils, 700. The Seminoles have no public schools; they have few public schools; number of pupils, 200; they have one new mission school soon be finished, capable of accommodating fifty pupils. The annual school fund is $2,500. The population of Chickasaws is 5,000. They have eleven public schools; number of pupils, 440; annual school fund, $20,000. There are fifty children in school in the States, at an annual expense of $600 each. The Choctaws and Chickasaws from time to time four thousand. They have fifty pupils at the Catholic mission. Annual school fund, $5,000. The population of the Cherokees is 22,000. They have twenty-five pupils; annual school fund, $2,000. The Ottawas have one school with fifty-two pupils.

RAILWAY MATTERS

ADVANCE IN WESTWARD BOUND FREIGHTS.

NEW YORK, December 28.—The proposed advance in prices per cwt. on westward bound freights, agreed upon at the recent general railway convention in Chicago, has been carried out by the following named roads: New York Central and Hudson Railway, New York and Erie, Lake Shore and Michigan Central, Michigan Southern and Indiana Central, Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne and Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus and Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago, Grand Central, Pittsburgh Cincinnati and St. Louis, Atlantic and Great Western, Chicago Burlington and Quincy. In all cases the advance is fifteen cents, November 21st.

The Erie managers this afternoon announced that the business of the United States Express and Great Western Express Companies will cease on the 31st of cease March 1st, after which the New York and Boston Express Company will extend its operations over the Erie Road.

LEASE OF THE WESTERN AND ATLANTIC RAILROAD.

ATLANTA, GA., December 28.—In compliance with a resolution of the Legislature, proposals for leasing the Western and Atlantic Railroad for ten years were received until the 26th inst. for the lease of the Western and Atlantic Railroad. On opening the bids the lease was awarded to the following parties: Alex. H. Stephens, Jno. P. Grant, Benj. H. Hill, E. W. Cole, Richard Peters, Wm. C. Johnson, Wm. S. Holt, A. J. White, C. C. Nutting, Benj. May, E. Watseldler, W. Norris, Augustus Hansell, H. H. Cole, Jno. W. George Cook, Thomas A. Scott, Wm. T. Mathews, Wm. Norris, Jr., Wm. Wright, Jno. Thomas and their associates, making in all twenty-three. Other bids were received, but these failed to comply with the law by tendering sufficient security. The successful company is one of the strongest ever formed in the State. They will begin work at once and will put up over fifteen million dollars.

Governor Bullock, Brown, resigned his office as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court before putting in his bid and has been unanimously elected President of the new company. It is stated the road is leased.

KANSAS PACIFIC AGAIN OPEN.

CHEYENNE, W. T., December 28.—A telegram from Denver reports the opening of the Kansas Pacific Road, and trains will run regularly hereafter. The road has been closed for nearly two months by the strike, which required great labor to clear away. They are sending forward the accumulated freight as rapidly as possible, and will soon have them completed, and if the weather will permit will have the road in condition to prevent delays from this cause again.

THE BELLEVERNON BRANCH—ELECTION OF THE PITTSBURGH, VIRGINIA AND CHARLESTON COMPANY.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

BELLEVERNON, PA., December 28, 1870.

The stockholders of the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Connellsville Railroad held their final meeting to-day, preliminary to the organization of the company. The meeting was very numerously attended, and the proceedings were harmonious. The decisions of association were adopted and signed, and they will be dispatched by a special messenger next week to Harrisburg to receive the certificate of incorporation from the Secretary of State, and thereafter the body politic and corporate, L. C. Baldwin, of the firm of John Gibson's Sons & Co., Pittsburgh, was elected President, and the following named persons as directors: R. C. Schmertz, S. S. Jones, S. S. Marple, John Gibson, James Weyman, Samuel Shepherd, C. P. Markle, John Rankin, M. P. O'Hern, W. G. Hamilton and Thomas Bissell. The new company comes into existence as if by magic, and under very flattering auspices. Over nine thousand dollars of stock was subscribed in this county, more than enough to grade the entire road. Propositions already received from the people of Washington county to run from exchange for the bonds of the company. The engineer corps will be in the field in force in a very few weeks, and we are confident of a railroad connection with the East and West before the next Congress adjourns.

The election for Directors in the Pittsburgh and Virginia Railroad Company takes place on the 7th day of January next. This company has the right to construct a railroad from McKeesport, on the east bank of the Youghiogheny River, to the State line, the first place take the necessary steps to connect this road with Connellsville, as the people above are clamoring for an outlet by railroad. We are, as citizens, in fine give over our prospects as a town. We have been mentioned as a point for a day or two as a favorable town on the river.

V.

EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN RAILWAY.

Of the European and North American Railway and its connections it is said: The European and North American Railway is now completed from Bangor to the boundary of the Province of New Brunswick, although as will be seen, it substantially embraces an entire length of roads, and is the main line and trunk so far as it goes, of the railroad system stretching from the Pacific to the North Atlantic Ocean. A few miles of road connect the Bangor line at present with the New Brunswick and Canada Railroad, chartered by New Brunswick, and now in operation, the distance between the two points being 15½ miles. The New Brunswick and Canada Road extends from the boundary line to Shediac, on the Gulf, on northwardly to Calais, St. Stephens and St. Andrews southerly, and eastwardly to the flourishing city of St. John, at the mouth of the River of the same name. The same railroad continues eastwardly from St. John, by the Isthmus of the Kennebecasis, and is in operation to Dorchester, at the head of the Bay of Fundy and thence to the shore of that bay at Cape Tormentine. From Dorchester it is to continue to Truro, from which point a line is already in operation to Halifax. Mutual understandings and provisional arrangements will bring this entire line, with its tributaries, under one management. The connection, indeed, from end to end, has been under one contract. The only portions unconstructed are that of Nova Scotia to the boundary of New Brunswick, and from Dorchester to Truro. All the rest is in full operation, and the remaining links will be finished during the next season.

WEST CHESTER AND PHILADELPHIA ROAD.

The Delaware county *American* says: The annual report of this road is not yet made, but we learn that the passengers for the year 1870 amounted to 681,601, a heavy increase, as shown by the fact that during the last six months, under the new schedule of the Baltimore Central, there were but 660,595, and in 1869, for ten months, with four months' Baltimore Central schedule, but 798,386. The number of excursion

The Daily Commercial.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER, 29, 1870.

It is said that the secret of the rise in Western Union Telegraph stock is owing to the premeditated sale of the corporation to the government the present winter. The opposition heretofore kept up from that quarter will, it is said, be withdrawn, and telegraphing by Government concurred in as a measure wise and profitable. The proposition heretofore has been to build new lines and leave this great private corporation, as well as others, to do the best they could.

There is not so much talk as there was about Cabinet changes, nevertheless quite as much probability exists as at any previous time of at least a single change; and this time the Treasury becomes the department of special interest. While the personal relations between the President and Secretary Boutwell are very friendly, there are considerations which render the resignation of the latter within the period of a month not an improbable event. To succeed Mr. Boutwell the friends of Mr. Delano stand ready to urge him with zeal, but it is hardly probable that the head of the Treasury will go so far from the seaboard.

Senator Cameron, it is understood, took Georgia into his care and promised an administration victory. He made two visits into the State and was there, we believe, when the election took place. It might not be entirely fair to say that it was in the power of any one man or any number of men to carry the State after the antics there for the last two years, but Mr. Cameron's labors and influence could not have been of much avail or the wreck would have been less complete. The Southern elections, like those in the North, last fall, are so full of instruction that no word of comment is necessary. Yet we shall wait for Mr. Cameron's explanation of the result in Georgia with considerable interest.

The leading Revenue Reform organ in the West kindly gives notice that the House of Representatives will be organized in that interest by the election of the regular Republican candidate for Speaker. All that is needed to render this information complete is the name of the gentleman that is to be thus honored. About this there is as much reticence as what Revenue Reform means. To be sure we are told it means something "in the interest of the whole people," a definition sufficiently indistinct to suggest a serious want of agreement as to the manner of giving it effect. Ohio is for such a reform as will have reference to the best good of American interests, whereas your Illinois free-trader in disguise wants a tariff—if any at all—which will bring America into immediate and disastrous competition with foreign countries. If we go down, let us. We shall be curious to see how Ohio and Illinois will harmonize.

Very many things are expected of Congress when it reassembles, but to increase the clerical force in the Departments is not one of them, although the Washington *Republican* announces that it will be done. The only reason that appears to be given is to provide places for Southern men, that section claiming to have an inadequate share of public pap. It is even stated that the places have already been filled in advance, the persons to have them being designated, and that there is no use in applying for any situation in Washington, until the demands of Southern Congressmen in behalf of their favorites are complied with. There is little chance that this nice scheme will succeed, for we believe that Congress understands too well that the people are opposed to any increase in Government expenses, especially when it is done for political effect alone.

WHAT OF THE FRENCH?

Dr. Tocqueville, in a short essay published after his death, says that the character of the French nation is so peculiar that the general study of humanity does not suffice for its comprehension. In the same fragment he remarks that the French are capable of whatever extremes but a single effort, however violent it may be, but that they are incapable of maintaining themselves long at a great elevation, because they are a people of sensations not principles. If the former of these opinions indicates a deep insight into the French nature the latter would seem to show that even De Tocqueville had not quite fathomed the depths of what he admitted to be a mysterious subject. In the actual struggle with the Germans the French are certainly exhibiting the sort of capability which their great compatriot denied that they possess. Perhaps the long hatred of Prussia, in which successive generations of the race have been nourished and brought up, may have become so interwrought in their constitution as to have supplied the original defect of the French character. Some of the qualities requisite to sustain a prolonged military conflict they have always possessed in a high degree. The notion that every Frenchman is a born soldier for ages received as true all over the world, must have had some foundation in fact. From time to time all along the race has proved itself not deficient in military qualities. In the course of the present struggle, new recruits, after a few weeks of drill as well as the debauched soldiers of the empire have repeatedly proved that they are still capable of the historical "French fury" in battle, and of the old, exulting, joyful rush into the jaws of death. Ever since the distractions and violent conflicts of opinion which followed the first knowledge of the utter annihilation of the trained forces on which they depended for victory and defense, the tendency and advance of the nation towards unanimity of pupose and concentration of effort have been manifest, notwithstanding local feuds and individual protests. The ancient enthusiasm also by which commonplace or selfish motives are transmuted in the thought of the actor into high resolutions for the deliverance of other nations as well as themselves, evidently animates many of the French fighters in the terrible war. If the sentiment should become widely prevalent among them, it will not be less powerful because foreigners may laugh at the pretense or scorn such missionaries. The sentiment seems worthy of notice now, because it will certainly be an important element in the spirit of resistance with which the Germans will have to contend should the struggle become what it now threatens to become, truly national on the French side, when every man and boy and peasant woman who can master a gun or a scythe or a fork will use the weapon against the common enemy. As a contagion, besides, spreading to other neighboring nations, the invaders among the rest, the sentiment is also worthy of account in estimating the present chances of the conflict. Paris, it is alleged, cannot be bombarded, and it is impossible to conjecture how long the city is still capable of holding out against starvation. But besides the two hundred thousand trained soldiers within its inclosure, there must be at least seven hundred thousand drilled men in the provinces. Though even lately more frequently defeated than victorious, defeat, as eye-witnesses tell us, instead of discouraging generally intensifies the hopes and resolves of the soldiers. Indeed there is every indication that the French are more hopeful than ever of final success, and have no notion of giving up the contest. And however desperate their situation may appear, it would certainly be rash, in recollection of what they have achieved since Sedan and in view of the growing difficulties with which the Germans have to contend, to pronounce their prospects hopeless.

In the current of foreign opinion regarding the French since the first defeats of the war, there is a rather remarkable resemblance to the current of foreign opinion regarding their fathers nearly a century ago. The resemblance just now possesses a very decided speculative interest as a historical illustration of French character. A few short extracts from the "Autobiographic Memoirs of Edward Gibbon" will indicate what is meant. Thus, April 4, 1792, the historian writing to Lord Sheffield, says:

"It is the opinion of the master movers in France (I know it most certainly) that their troops will not fight; that the people have lost all sense of patriotism, and that on the first discharge of an Austrian cannon the game is up."

May 20, he writes of the French as "Gallic wolves," as objects of "general contempt as well as abhorrence," as lawless savages who fly before the enemy, hang their prisoners, and murder their officers." In another letter he calls them "cannibals," "savages of Gaul." Still later, he states that a gentleman who had visited one of the French armies—

"Represents the men as a black, daring, desperate crew of buccaneers, rather shocking than confounding; the officers (generally a gentleman among them) without servants, or horses or baggage, lying lapidly popularly on the ground with the common men, yet maintaining a rough kind of discipline over them."

Pretty much such forces are now forming all over France. At length Gibbon writes: "I despise the French much less than I did two months ago," and so, gradually throughout the world, admiration of French exploits took the place of contempt.

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

Each of the great nations immediately interested in the question of the Alabama claims, appears to be really anxious for its peaceful settlement. Upon the existence of this state of mind each of them is certainly to be congratulated. Though the subject while unadjusted is a matter of greater embarrassment and concern to England than to this country, probably few well informed people are still of the opinion, three or four years ago so prevalent, that a speedy settlement is not of much importance to us, and that we can "afford to wait for it as well as not." We use a phraseology once very current on the subject. True, there is a sense in which we can afford to wait indefinitely. Mere waiting will not make the nation bankrupt, or produce internal convulsions. But it is a great mistake to suppose that a subject of controversy, the occasion of so much irritation during several years, a question in which are involved the contingencies of peace or war, may remain open between two proud and powerful commercial nations without injuriously affecting the interests of each of them. The uncertainty of the situation interferes with the investment of capital and exerts an evil influence upon the course and enterprise of international trade between the countries concerned and those connected with them. And a still more important consideration is the retardation in the development of pacific international relations caused by the controversy and the uncertainty of its issue. Peace is now almost universally conceded to be the true policy of nations. In order to hold this view it is not necessary to adopt the extravagances and absurdities of the agitators who claim to be pre-eminently the friends of peace. The policy to which we refer rests upon the solid foundations of individual and national utility and of a completely developed Christian civilization. Every vexatious dispute between nations tends to postpone its general recognition. Two generations of the American people have been deeply wounded and disturbed by the crimes of the Alabama and by the agitation of the claims to which those crimes have given rise, and there is danger that the animosities of the debate may be transmitted to the millions of another generation which will soon be old enough to take interest in affairs. It is evident that by an adjustment which should remove the subject from the field of American and English politics, the probabilities of future peaceful relations between the two countries, would be much increased by preventing among the next generation the existence of those resentments in which wars often originate. Every present quarrel is intensified by the memory of former offenses, even though they may have been atoned for, or forgiven. Any future difficulty that may arise between the United States and England will be much more likely to be calmly and rationally considered by those inhabitants of each country who have never been called upon to view the Alabama claims as an unsettled dispute.

From such and other points of view, reasons numerous and cogent are manifest for desiring the early close of the controversy. It is obvious to all that the prospect also of so desirable a consummation is fairer now than ever before. England has lately been made to feel very deeply the danger of incurring the penalty warranted by her own precedent, and the consequent embarrassment imposed upon her actions. On the side of the United States a decided mitigation of feeling seems to have taken place. Not that the offense for which damages are claimed appears less than formerly, or that there is any disposition to pardon the injury without indemnification. But mere time has somewhat cooled the passion which mingled with the first demand for justice. Reflection, discussion, and the judgments of distinguished neutral thinkers have shown that the claims formerly made were in part ill grounded, and besides, such as one great nation ought not to make upon another. The claim for constructive damages and the demand of a formal apology and contrita confession of wrong may be mentioned as points not likely to be insisted upon. Then good has resulted from the diffusion in this country of the knowledge of the real condition of English opinion and feeling in reference to this country during our conflict. Better than formerly we are able to discriminate between our friends and our enemies in the British islands. We now know that the great popular masses who most suffered by our war, and that also a large proportion of the middle class were favorably disposed towards the North. In fact, the weight of this sentiment was sufficient to exert a controlling influence upon the Government and prevent the adoption of proposed measures which would have added vastly to our burdens, if they had not rendered success impossible. The prosperity of our English enemies, responsible for injurious neglects if not acts of positive hostility, depended upon Northern failure. In aiding our enemies, they strove to aid themselves, and by the triumph of the North, they have forever lost their predominent influence in British politics. "Proud and uninformed regarding this country," as in Dr. Franklin's time, they have already been severely punished for their pride and ignorance, by the permanent loss of position. The last Reform Bill was a direct and immediate result of the American success which they tried to prevent. Though not of any particular value in the discussion of the Alabama claims this view of the case undoubtedly has had some influence on the popular feeling concerning the question.

Small and apparently unimportant incidents reported from Germany may be significant indications of important movement and change. The first incident to which we allude is the following: General Von Canstein having issued an order prohibiting the soldiers in the hospitals at Berlin from reading a certain Liberal newspaper, the order called forth a storm of excitement and opposition almost as vehement as a similar act would have produced in England or the United States. A deputation, led by a well known Conservative, General Von Madern, waited on General Canstein to request the withdrawal of the objectionable edict. With this request the great man refused to comply on the ground that the prohibited journal was unpatriotic, but when pressed for proof of the charge he was compelled to admit that he had never read the paper and had issued his prohibition at the suggestion of influential people. In opposition to the tyrannical order the Relief Committee were conspicuous. Professor Virchow, so celebrated in surgery and medicine, loudly testified to the great service rendered by the press in general, but especially by the liberal journals to the cause of beneficence among the soldiers. With the request for gratuitous copies of their papers, made to all the editors, the Liberals, he stated, had complied without exception, while comparatively few of the Conservatives had been so generous. Though the opposition did not succeed in getting the order rescinded, the soldiers continue to read the newspapers undisturbed. Thus an enlightened and liberal public opinion quietly defies, and sets at naught a positive and direct military edict.

In referring to the incident as at all remarkable or worthy of mention, of course we do not mean to imply that public opinion in Prussia has heretofore been without influence on the Government. The interest and meaning of the affair seem to turn upon the prompt, outspoken character of the opposition, the direct collision, and the easy triumph of liberal good sense over military tyranny. The circumstance is only one of a multitude of indications that by the sufferings, sacrifices and achievements of the war, a feeling of their own worth, dignity and rights has been awakened in the Prussian people.

The Indians may not be very good authorities on scientific subjects generally, but it must be admitted that they are as *fast* as to the weather. They have been predicting a severe winter in the West and the thermometer is fully verifying that prediction by keeping down to 15 and 20 degrees below zero in many localities.

The Japanese students who come to this country immediately adopt our dress, learn our language very rapidly, and excel in many of the higher branches of study. On their return home they are almost invariably placed in high positions either public or private.

A Cincinnati Commercial correspondent who has been traveling in Tennessee and the States South of it for over a year, gives it as the result of his observations that the Republicans can expect little more from the negroes in the South. The Democracy are working hard for the negro vote and secured a large share of it in Georgia. Indeed this correspondent, writing while the election was in progress, predicted that the Democrats would control the Legislature, being led to this conclusion by seeing the efforts made by the leading Democrats of each county to bring the negroes over to their side. A promise of protection from the "Reds" seems enough to induce a black man to vote against the Republicans, although some of them complain that money has been growing scarcer under "Radical rule," and they want to give the other side a trial. But there is another very large class of negroes who announce that they don't care to vote any more, having had enough of politics. From all this there seems to be good reason to refrain from entertaining great expectations in regard to the influence of the South in political matters.

It is not probable that Moncure D. Conway is a Protectionist, and statements from that gentleman are liable to that theory, are therefore to have a greater weight. In his last London letter to the Cincinnati *Commercial* he speaks of the movement to give Ireland a Parliament, or sort of State Legislature, to control her local affairs, and says:

"The great difficulty which the government sees in the way of espousing the plan, is that its projectors claim it as essential that it should have authority over the internal trade of Ireland. The Irish are not all free-traders, and there is much doubt whether one of the first acts of the Irish Parliament would not be to adopt a protective tariff. As England in early days ruined Ireland by suppressing much of its industry in favor of English products, it is quite likely if that island had the power it would manage to recover the same by protective measures. Whether England will be willing to run even this risk to secure a loyal island, time alone can show; but I am told the agitators for the new Parliament will not concede the point in their programme which claims authority over Irish trade."

Is it not singular that these Irish leaders, with the example of enforced free-trade present with them for years, should prefer to try protection? And is it not singular, too, that the British manufacturers, with all the advantages of cheap supplies and cheap labor, which free-trade is regarded as having compelled to protect themselves against threatened Irish competition, by keeping down Ireland's tariff?

The railway system of the United States and its prospective extension constitute the subject of an elaborate paper on the report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office. The landed endowments of our trans-continental lines receive especial ventilation, and the cessation of this policy is strongly urged, as it is no longer necessary to the completion of the work. The singular fact is developed that the working of the trans-continental lines results in a profit of fifty per cent. upon the gross receipts, mostly from local traffic, which seems to indicate that railway enterprise will hereafter find in local traffic its most effective scope of action. The railroad statistics show that our present mileage is over fifty thousand miles, and rapidly growing. Our railway transportation is also found to be but twenty times as great as it was in 1851, with less than double the population of that year. In other words, the same population now requires ten times the amount of transportation that was then required.

We shall now see whether the Ritualists will pay that obedience to the Bishop, that in several instances has been enjoined upon Low Church people as one of the first duties of an Episcopalian. Bishop Potter, of New York, has decided to prohibit the elaborate colored and embroidered vestments now used in religious services at the well-known St. Alban's church, as well as at one or two other churches in that city. The attempt to enforce such a prohibition will probably bring this question to a decision, and much curiosity will be felt as to the result.

Few more items about the heirs of Anneke Jans will be made. In their first suit against Trinity Church, Judge McCunn has decided that the plaintiffs' notions of their rights is "wild, visionary and absurd." The Jans tribe might stand this, but they are generally an impecunious set, and will be driven quite out of the courts by the court's decision to allow defendants large costs, in proportion to the amount claimed in the complaint, on the ground that "parties who wish for this kind of notoriety should pay for it." If they have common sense, they will let the matter rest, and will not appeal from Judge McCunn's decision.

At the New England dinner in New York, last week, Mr. Emerson oddly enough located Secretary Robeson in Pennsylvania, and humbly appealed to Mr. Bryant if he was correct. The incident seemed to remind those present of the clamor about Pennsylvania in the Cabinet and suggested that even if Secretary Robeson did live across the Jersey line, it was about all the same to both States. The idea of him being that the selection was one "fit to be made" any way.

A London dispatch says that the colonists of New Zealand are dissatisfied with their ocean via California. This confused statement probably refers to Webb's new American steamer line from the English colonies in the South Pacific to San Francisco, and the attempt to carry the mails for England by that route. It will be well to wait until we hear from the New Zealanders direct, before believing this story, which suits English interests to well too be correct.

The *Tribune* talks of the "Art of Giving," and proceeds to several conundrums. One of them is: "Gratitude is all very well; but how is a bachelor to feel grateful for the gift of the finest hooped skirt, or a single lady for the most beautiful pair of pantaloons?" We would say that such a present was a broad hint to both bachelor and single lady to unite their gifts and be happy, if they can't be grateful.

It is Mr. J. S. Mills's opinion that no nation or set of nations has a right to impose any conditions as to armament, number of ships &c., in certain seas, upon another country unless the same conditions are made general among all the parties. He thinks that, although Russia has made her decision in a rather peremptory manner, war will not follow merely on account of her breaking the treaty of 1856, but it may ensue from the fear of worse consequences.

It is the opinion of a critical writer that the British iron clads have too light armor, but are splendidly armed; that they draw too much water, run too slowly, and roll too much, yet, taken all in all, are the best fighters probable in the world.

The New York *Journal of Commerce* thinks that the "oft repeated tale" of judicial and general official corruption in its city has but a "narrow application;" yet, "when there is so much smoke, &c."

PERSONAL.

Secretary Robeson, at the recent New England dinner in New York, where there were some of the leading characters of the country, of all professions, is referred to by the correspondent of the Boston *Advertiser* as follows:

"Secretary Robeson made one of the finest efforts of the entire evening, and his success and the hearty reception must have been gratifying to him and his personal friends as unexpected to the great majority of his auditors. It actually turned out that the Secretary of the Navy was an orator, and no mean one either. His rapid flow of words and his fine sonorous sentences seemed fairly to carry the audience along with them, like foam on the tide, and an occasional cheer of applause told how truly and fully the Secretary had won the confidence and sympathy of his listeners. Whenever he spoke of President Grant there came a cheer, and when he finished his eloquent tribute to him as the great statesman and soldier-statesman and leader," the applause was perfectly tempestuous, and made the hall ring again and again. For everybody was thinking of Sam Ingham, and the night before in the Senate chamber, and was determined that the Secretary should go back to Washington and the President without a doubt as to the thorough confidence and approbation which New York yet reposes in the Administration and its chief. Mr. Robeson was presented as the representative of the Administration, took pains to acknowledge and define that relation, and received a most emphatic and unmistakable verdict in his favor. The Secretary has also in his favor a fine, commanding personal presence, an earnest and forcible style of delivery, and undoubtedly made and left the impression *as* the orator of the evening."

A country paper in Michigan has gone into the Senatorial fight in dead earnest and calls Governor Blair a "sexagenarian" and the "Howards" "septuagenarians." The Detroit *Post* explains that "these are not only hard names but they are false ones. Governor Blair is not sixty, and the Howards are not seventy years of age."

Charles Nordhoff, managing editor of the New York *Evening Post*, is a native of Prussia, and among his other experiences has spent time as a sailor.

The *Almanach de Gotha* for 1871 names T. Ireling-huysen as American Minister to England.

St. Louis claims Kate Field as its own because she was born there, and already begins to greet her, before her coming in February.

Sumner's egotism is well hit off in a remark attributed to General Grant, and good, whoever originated it. The story is that the other day Conkling was talking to the President about Sumner, and said, among other things, that he (Sumner) did not believe in the Bible. "Of course he does not, as he didn't write it," replied Grant.

When Commissioner Pleasanton enters upon his duties, which will be next Tuesday, the consolidation of revenue districts will take place, and all reports thus far as to the manner of combining certain districts are mere surmises.

"Pecuniary self-defense" is the reason given for Senator Drake taking the Court of Claims Jutgeship. He is within two years of the end of his Senatorial term, and at 64 years of age could not expect to resume his profession when he retires; whereas the new position is good for life and $5,000 a year.

While Dr. Woolsey has been President of Yale College for twenty-five years, Harvard has had six Presidents in that time, Messrs. Everett, Sparks, Walker, Felton, Hill and Elliot. It is a curious fact that Yale has had in all but nine Presidents, whose average term of office has been nineteen years; while Harvard has had twenty-three, serving on the average but ten years each.

The fashion papers tell marvellous stories of the *trousseau* preparing for the beautiful daughter of a New York millionaire, who has gained her parents consent to her marriage with a young lawyers' clerk in Troy. They have been engaged three years, and have had the opposition of the parents to contend with the wedding. The father even took the belle to Europe last summer to rid her of the persistent lover, but on her return the threat of elopement gained his consent.

It's not all fun to go to public performances and private entertainments as public men have to, and anybody that envies them may profit by reading this extract from General Sherman's letter declining an invitation to the Plymouth celebration of Forefather's Day.

"I must attend here (Washington) during the night of Monday, the 19th, a ball given for the benefit of the poor, of which Mrs. Sherman is a patroness, and I am announced as a manager. I must leave next morning for Philadelphia, to attend the grand opening that evening, of Robbertson's play of Gettysburg, in compliment to, and by earnest invitation of General Meade. If I am to accept your invitation, I would have to hurry away in order to reach Plymouth by noon of the 21st; then at 5 o'clock P. M. hurry away and be in time to get to the train for New York, where, on the 22d, I would have to dine out and go straight to the New England dinner at Delmonico's at 7 o'clock P. M. Now, I leave it to you if flesh and blood, weakened by fifty years' hard work, ought to travel in that style, and would I not be likely to reach the feast of the wits of New York a dull guest?"

Philadelphia expects to become the greatest grain shipping port of the country. The latest movement looking to this end is a new road from Duluth to St. Paul. Philadelphia largely controls this interest, and also the Northern Pacific Railroad, which is to penetrate the richest of the grain-growing districts of the world. Lines of propellers have been put on the lakes to connect with Erie, and every effort is making to draw the grain to that point as an entrepot, and then ship it by rail to Philadelphia. The scheme looks so auspicious, that a Philadelphia journal says "the diversion of the produce trade of the West from the New York canals to the Pennsylvania Railroad is certain and irresistible. All the plans have been carefully arranged, and as patiently purchased." The business begun is to be continued and then it is claimed Philadelphia will soon become one of the greatest grain shipping ports in this hemisphere.

SMALL NOTES.

We Americans are, as a general thing, too much engrossed in the art of making money to enjoy ourselves thoroughly on holidays, but it is a good sign to see the increase of enjoyment manifested among all classes on the recurrence of any holiday. The generally expressed desire that such days were more frequent. Life was made for enjoyment, and one will be just as happy when dying if he has given more time to its pleasures and less to its cares.

When Charlemagne established the first German Empire he laid it immediately at the feet of the Pope, and now it is rumored that King William, the latest to-be head of that Empire, has invited the Pope to come and live at Hesse Cassel. There is scarcely any political reason why this should be true, but the King's heart may have counseled pity for the fallen potentate.

Some people think they can cure near-sightedness by continued squeezing of the eye-ball, but Dr. Williams says, in the *Atlantic Monthly*: It may lead to congestion and hemorrhage within the eyes; or give rise to destructive inflammation, or the formation of cataract by dislocating the crystaline lens; or cause almost immediate loss of sight by separation of the retina from its neighboring parts; or may result in flattening or giving way of the back part of the globe, which is already often begun in near-sighted eyes. The same warnings will apply with equal force against the use of eye-cups fitted with rubber tubes, to alter the form of the eyeball, as is asserted, by surgeons.

The proverb that "it never rains but it pours" has been aptly illustrated in the case of Porter and Sutters. First came one, then another, and now we have the latest turned out from the mysterious mail-bags of the past. This letter, dated Mound City, June 13th, is to the Navy Department in reply to Admiral Farragut's request to send him two good iron-clads to assist in the capture of Mobile. Porter says that the only two new iron-clads in his fleet, the Winnebago and Chickasaw, "are not fitted to go anywhere but in the smoothest water," "would break to pieces in the least swell," and "are unfit to cope with anything carrying heavy guns, or to engage fortifications." Now a certain private individual of St. Louis was much interested in the matter, so he went to Washington, denounced this letter, and signed a contract to agree to pay the total "expense of sending the Chickasaw and Winnebago to Farragut, and of bringing them back again, including fuel, wages, etc., providing Farragut should, on receiving them, decline to use them because of their want of strength."

The iron clads went to Mobile without accident, and proved themselves the strongest and most perfectly armed vessels of the navy, one having been struck nineteen times in that famous engagement without a casualty to any of her crew. The letter is to be found in the archives of the Navy Department.

Peace congresses are all very good things, but for men to talk of universal absence of war seems an absurdity in direct opposition to all of Nature's lessons. Every individual creation, both animate and inanimate, is continually preying on one or many of the others,—has been since the beginning of matter. Plants eat up the atmosphere's carbon, hydrogen, oxygen; the beasts of the field destroy and consume the plants; man slaughters the beasts of the field. We can look nowhere without seeing these evidences of eternal contest of Nature's elements. Is it reasonable to suppose, then, that Nature would exempt from her general law her most powerful elements, nations?

A Utah correspondent of the New York *World* believes that the isolation of that Territory is now at an end; that the tyrannical despotism of Brigham Young, the American Pope, is about to fall, and that the influences of two bands of railroad iron; and that even the best of Mormons are beginning to doubt that Pope's infallibility as seriously as some people do at the assembly of the Italian ex-Potentate. The same correspondent thinks that the lack of development in Utah's mineral resources besides having been occasioned by the peculiar institution is partly due to the class of miners heretofore at work. They have been Mormons satisfied by digging one day, hauling one day, to make enough to go off a spree for three. The mines themselves are said to be the richest, probably, in the world.

Of all the capitals of large countries Washington is the only one which is now free from the anxieties and fevered fears of war. Paris is experiencing one of its alternations of trouble; London is gloomy, unsettled and hesitating; Berlin mourns in black, the thousands of sons slain on the plains of France; St. Petersburg rumbles with the roll of artillery going no one knows whither; Rome has lost one Potentate, and is now in a state of fearful suspense in reference to another; Madrid is "on tip-toe" to receive her new king, and Constantinople is trembling lest the great bear of the North may break loose and come down upon her with sharp claws and glistening teeth. Happy Washington! But she has had her turn at this sort of thing.

Paris correspondence up to the 27th ult., states that there were 4,217 cows to be kept for their milk, and 1,790 which are to go to the slaughter houses. Rabbits cost from $2 to $4; hens $2 50 to $5; geese $5 to $10. Bread and coffee were at ante-war rates. Christmas dinners would be scant in that city.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

In England all untitled gentlemen's cards bear the Mr. before the name, a custom gradually finding favor here. But the two universities it is customary to draw a pencil mark through this title when leaving a card on an under-graduate friend.

There are eight companies of militia in the State of Michigan, and no fears of an invasion from Canada are entertained.

May Bellard, of La Crosse, took a hot brick to bed with her to warm her feet, and burned up a $6,000 house by so doing.

The Dore paintings are cited in illustration of the fickleness of the New York public. Last December they were attracting crowds of the best amateurs, and connoisseurs, and held their court in a Fifth avenue picture gallery—their value being $15,000 apiece. But at present they hold by sheer permission a place on the wall of a warehouse devoted to iron safes and kindred merchandise, and the owner would be glad to sell them for one-quarter the original quotation.

Lord A Taylor have as a show window attraction a life-size wax figure of the Empress Eugenie that cost $5,000, with its costume.

So unusual has been the heat of the past season that cotton was planted at Stamford, Conn., in April, upon poor soil, and receiving no attention, grew to maturity and produced some bolls of long staple cotton; and a handsome profit could have been realized if enough ground had been devoted to its cultivation.

The following amounts have been expended by the Austrian Government in subsidies to the press: 1864, $200,000; 1865, $189,000; 1866, $141,000; 1867, $137,000; 1868, $96,000; 1869, $92,000; 1870, $75,000. The practice is now discontinued, and wisely.

The only newspaper ever printed in Hebrew is the *Hamagid*, a weekly published at Lyck, East Prussia, and now in its fourteenth year. It is read wherever Israelites are found, and has an especially large circulation in Russia, and it has done more than any other publication to keep alive the love of the Russian Jews than any other paper ever published, among whom it has awakened a salutary feeling of patriotism, and it thus strives to further the spread of education in Russian Jewry.

The South African brilliants are scientifically pronounced to be not genuine. A London jeweler has found them to be lumps of translucent quartz, and owners of "diamond fields" are disgusted at him.

New York is at last to have one market building worthy of a great city. The Manhattan Market Company, capital $1,000,000, has secured a block of five acres on North river, bounded by Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth streets, and Eleventh and Twelfth avenues. The building will be as nearly fire-proof as possible, being of stone, brick and iron; 800 feet long by 200 wide, and the covered central area will be the largest in the United States devoted to a like purpose, 500,000 square feet with ample accommodations. It is claimed for about 1,000 dealers. It is claimed that stalls can be let at a weekly rental of $3 to $10, and an annual rent income of $250,000 is expected. The building will be lighted from a great overarching dome, by two thousand burners, arranged so as to flood the place with light, and preclude the necessity of special lighting of their stalls by the dealers. These great sunlights, overhead, will be communicated with by electricity. The plans for ventilation are of the most comprehensive character, and such as must secure a comparatively pure atmosphere in the hottest weather. There will be four grand saloons, one at each of the great entrances. These will measure, each, fifty-eight by twenty-three feet, and be leased as first-class restaurants.

Two Volcanic islands have recently been thrown up in the harbor of the Sunday Islands to the height of 200 and 250 feet.

Chicago claims that her post-office has done more business during the past year than the post-offices of Cincinnati, St. Louis, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee, all combined.

The oldest fossil known has been discovered in the Adirondack mountains.

Forty years ago one Hodson dug some gold out of a North Carolina mine, and had it coined into seven eagles at the Philadelphia mint. The other day he sold the coins in Indianapolis, and has to regret the loss of the interest and compound interest on his money since 1830.

The villainy of Jerseymen is remarkable, and can only be explained by their proximity to New York. Some time ago one French, a dentist at Eatontown, whose clothes were found on the beach at Long Branch one morning last summer, and whose family mourned him as dead. But he had only taken "French" leave for Chicago, where he has been living on the proceeds of a $10,000 life insurance policy he somehow secured. He now repents, and asks his wife to forgive and forget, but she will not, and she's right, too.

A Detroit merchant was delighted at receiving a Christmas present of a basket of champaigne from a Chicago friend and invited several friends to share the treat. But, on opening the basket he found a dozen mock bottles made of pasteboard, while proper weight was given the basket by means of a false bottom filled with sand.

Don't leave your twin babies lying about in cold cradles even in your own room. A Milwaukee mother tried it and the infants froze to death in a night.

A final appeal to the Iowa Supreme Court has sustained the injunction restraining the city of Burlington from conveying away to a railroad corporation, the accretions along the river shore.

Senator Cameron is expected to forward to Washington the official statement of the condition and needs of the work of the Des Moines Rapids improvement, and there is no present hope therefore of getting a further appropriation.

The Germans have been doing a famous business at bagging stray Frenchmen in the last six months. Their average daily "haul" has been 3,500, and they still continue in that line of business, with a "few more left of the same sort."

The various National Asylums for Disabled Soldiers, have supported or aided 4,194 soldiers this year.

The Cathedral of *Notre Dame* is eleven miles from the nearest Prussian gun. The greatest range hitherto attained is about five miles.

What is commercial honesty? We hope that the following anecdote from the New York *Standard* does not represent a fair specimen of it, for if it does it is time for us all to be "losing faith in human nature.

"A certain leading grocery house on the west side of town recently received a cask of dried herrings in the very best of merchantable order. The gentleman whose name the firm bears caused these to be taken out of the cask and had put in their stead a lot that was old and decaying. These were sent to the firm from which the fresh lot had been received, with the explanation that, the goods being damaged, they could not be received."

A WASHINGTON SCANDAL.

A Drunken Member of Congress Brutally Beats His Wife.

A Washington correspondent makes public a disgraceful affair, which he says occurred at Willard's Hotel on Wednesday night of last week. The story as it is given is that Richard J. Haldeman, Democratic Member of Congress from the York, Pa., District has been on a grand debauch for some time, and that about midnight on Wednesday, the wife of a Senator, whose husband was attending the night session on the San Domingo resolution, was aroused by loud and infamous language in an adjoining room, addressed to the wife of Haldeman by that Representative; and then hearing blows, the Senator's wife rang for help. Soon the proprietor and two of three servants were brought to the hall, and two members of Congress were roused from their rooms by the then loud shrieks of a female voice, mingled with the exclamation of "Don't, Richard, don't, don't!" The hotel proprietor, Mr. Sykes, at once hammered on the door, and warned Haldeman that unless he instantly ceased his violence he would spend the night in the police station. He stammered out a maudlin "Yes," and his wife not appealing to those who had by that time arrived in the hall for protection, they did not feel warranted in forcing the door open and taking her away.

A servant was then stationed in the hall to prevent trouble and at half past one and four A. M., had to interfere to frighten Haldeman from further violence. On the next morning, Mrs. Haldeman, a lady of refinement and spotless character, the daughter of Senator Cameron, said that her husband had twice knocked her down, had kicked and choked and bruised her. Her face was shockingly bruised; both eyes were blacked, and other marks of his brutality were on her person.

It is also related that several days before this Mr. H. appeared on the floor of the House so manifestly drunk that he was unable to articulate when he arose, holding on to his desk; and after a rapping of the Speaker's hammer failed to seat him, he was left standing until some of his friends got him off to the cloak room. After this his wife clung to him, and tried to get him sobered down, and even on the morning after the beating, when the hotel proprietor ordered Haldeman away and invited her to stay, she still went with her husband, returning with him to York, determined to try to reform him.

It is said that upon his next appearance in the House in an intoxicated condition, he will be summarily expelled. Besides this the guests of the hotel, when they heard of his conduct, seriously contemplated giving him a coat of tar and feathers, and a dip in the muddy Tiber. He was saved from this well-merited punishment only by the interference of Mr. Sykes and a few cool headed guests.

THE OIL REGIONS.

The Monthly Statements—Another Letter from "Corroplanter"—New Well at Run—Matters in the Armstrong Field.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Oil Creek, December 24, 1870.

The Titusville *Herald* replied to my communication of the 20th inst., with a fanfaronade about anonymous scribblers, in the usual blustering style of the "Jeremy Diddler," who seems to control its columns on oil subjects, and with an added inference to my distinct allegations of exaggeration in his statement of oil shipments, says: The shipments published by the *Herald* are invariably authenticated to our reporter; they are taken from the manifest books and sources equally reliable, and indeed the Empire line heretofore published in separate tables. Now, this is mere equivocation—truth and falsehood mingled. I did not state that the *Herald* had not been furnished with authentic statements of shipments of oil. What I did say, and now repeat, was that the Titusville *Herald's* reports of November production and shipments were manipulated, and that its statements of shipments by the Oil Creek Railroad, Jamestown, north, and the Allegheny Valley Railroad to Pittsburgh was exaggerated to the extent of 67,315 barrels, which is a view and for the purpose of covering up false statements of the previous month. Surely these charges are clear, and may be understood by the *Herald* reporter, and just as surely they ought to be answered, not with prevarication and blustering denunciation. The time for such dodges has gone by, but by publishing the statements as "authenticated" to him, Oil producers have been long suffering and patient under the inflictions of the *Herald*, but they are now thoroughly awake, and have come to the conclusion that they must protect themselves in future against the manipulated monthly oil reports of that paper, by exposing the shrewd and dishonest tricks of its reporter through the columns of the Pittsburgh Commercial, whose circulation and influence in the oil region have been acquired by its reputation for fair dealing with the oil interests. Corroplanter.

STRIKE AT RENO.

We learn from the Titusville *Courier* that a new well was struck at Reno on Friday last, which was pumping on Saturday, we are informed, at the rate of 150 barrels per day. The name of the owner we did not learn, but understand the lucky man purchased two village lots in that town with the intention of building a home, but after the striking of oil in his lots on the Reno territory, decided to put down a well on one of the lots, which he did, with the above result.

THE ARMSTRONG FIELD.

The following facts are given by the East Brady *Independent*:

The Scarsdale well, No. 14, will soon be in running order. Harris well No. 2 is down 100 feet; Clark well about the same depth; the Wilson well has reached a depth of 1,500 feet. One of the Clark Farm Company's well is drilling. The Robert Wallace, the Ed. Seldom and Dr. James's well No. 2 are all in process of drilling. The Templeton and Foster and the Henry Jennings "rigs" will be completed this week. The Scarsdale well is being drilled deeper. The Meldren Reserve well has produced 4,000 barrels since it was struck.

PETROLEUM IN CAPE BRETON.

The Boston *Traveller* says: The wonders of the natural resources and wealth of the British Provinces are every day being made manifest in new and important directions. In addition to coal, gypsum, plaster, and a variety of valuable minerals discovered in the Island of Cape Breton (which now forms a portion of the Province of Nova Scotia), it is not long since we had to chronicle the discovery of one of the largest marble deposits in the world. We now learn from a Halifax newspaper, (the *Reporter*,) that extensive petroleum boring for oil is now going on, in Inverness county, struck an oil deposit at a depth of 580 feet, on Friday, 9th inst. The dispatch announcing the "find" says, "we struck a noble well," &c. The place where the new well is located is on the north side of the lake, and it is said there are also surface indications on the east side equally as favorable as those where the oil has been found. This discovery has created quite a fever in Nova Scotia, (as well it might,) and companies are being formed, and large tracts of land secured for the purpose of going into the oil business.

THE COMMERCIAL.

[From the North East Star.]

The Pittsburgh Commercial, acknowledged to be the leading paper of Pennsylvania, appeared in a new dress on Monday. In noting the fact, it says that "at no time has the patronage of the paper been as large or the business in every respect as satisfactory as at present. The paper of yesterday is enterprise as the metropolitan press, and is really a gigantic institution. It is one of our most welcome daily visitors, and "long may she wave."

[From the Clarion Republican.]

The Pittsburgh Commercial, of the 15th instant, in a bran new dress, looks bright and attractive.

Jas. T. Brady & Co.,

(Successors to S. Jones & Co.)

Corner Wood and Fourth Avenue,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS,

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FOURTH AVE. AND SMITHFIELD STREET

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 28, 1870.

Every spell of monetary stringency and its consequent disturbance to trade and business engagements, bring up in bold relief the prominent defects in the present banking system. Conspicuous among them is its want of elasticity. There is no accommodating element in it to suit the varying condition of the business of the country. In the State bank period, says the *Financial Chronicle*, before the National bank system was organized, the busy season of the year was selected by the old banks which availed themselves of its facilities to issue their currency, and some fifty millions were put out, which gradually returned home for redemption after the occasion was past for its use. For the banks this arrangement was a good one, because, by the issue of currency they got a loan without interest from the public for the period their notes were outstanding. The arrangement was equally good for the business community. For the volume of the currency was then increased when trade was active, and the business of the country needed currency, and it was contracted by its own spontaneous action as the life quietude of the drill season set in. Such an enlargement of the currency when business is brisk and contraction thereof when business is dull, constitutes what is meant by elasticity in a currency. This elasticity also disappeared was settled under the old State bank system. But it has been secured in some degree under the National bank system of National banks. The reason of this defect is not far to seek. The issue of the State banks had no forced circulation. In spite of all that the issuers could do to keep the bank notes out, and notwithstanding all the efforts of redemption set in operation to prolong the term in which the currency would float, there was no possibility of a long experience. When the drill season set in the bank notes floated home for redemption, and the currency which they had expanded itself, and which now shrunk back again to its normal dimensions. Under the National bank system the case is different. The issue of every National Bank in the country enjoys a compulsory circulation. Every National Bank in the country is obliged to receive them at par for all dues for taxes and on all payments to and from the National Government. They cannot come back for forced currency. They seldom return home for redemption. When the notes do come back it is only for the issuing bank to put them out again. Hence there is an end of the old machinery for expansion and contraction of the currency. The result is that the enlargement and diminution of the activity in the circulating current caused by the periodical rise or fall in the tide of business.

—The Secretary of the Treasury in his late report has suggested a general redemption point for all National Bank notes as indispensable to compensate in a great degree the inelasticity of the currency system. But for the meanwhile it is suggested that the Treasury shall lock up currency in the dull business season, and shall liberally dispense it during the busy period. It is conspicuous of Mr. Boutwell that he does not discommode more judiciously in favor of the wants of trade by a more effective use of his large currency balance to check monetary stringency when it is so obvious in his power to do so. He has the power to restore at any time the proper equilibrium of the money market, and prevent the artificial scarcity that is periodically produced by the manipulation of the market in the hands of a clique, who sometimes almost stop the wheels of trade by the operations of their powerful combination. It is urged that the Treasury balance, amounting to thirty millions of currency, shall be freely poured out. The half of this amount would be quickly absorbed by purchasing an extra amount of Government bonds or redeeming certificates of indebtedness, which can be taken back again whenever the volume of currency is too large for the wants of trade. Without elasticity in the currency the money market will be continually liable to spasms, and it is imperatively urged that such practical expedients that are within reach shall be speedily applied, until the defects in the national system be permanently removed.

—The advance in the price of Government bonds to-day was more marked than at any time during the present month.

Messrs. Jas. T. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Closg.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	113	113¼	113¼
U. S. Bonds of 1867	107	107	107
U. S. Bonds of 1864	107	107	107
U. S. Bonds of 1865	109½	109¾	109¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	109½	109¾	109¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	109¾	110	110
U. S. Bonds of 1868	109¾	110	110
10-40s	106½	106½	106½
Gold	119½	119½	119½

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote Government States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	119½
United States 6s of 1881	113
United States 5-20s of 1867	107
United States 5-20s of 1864	107
United States 5-20s of 1865	109¾
United States 10-40s	106½
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	109¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	110
United Pacific Railroad	93
Central Pacific Railroad	92
Currency Sixes	114

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 40 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 28, 1870.	10 A. M.	11 A. M.	12 M.	1 P. M.	2 P. M.	3 P. M.
C. & N. W.	90½	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾	90¾
Do. Scrip	83½	83½	83½	83½	83½	83½
Erie	25½	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾
Reading	97½	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾
Harlem	130	130	130	130	130	130
Illinois Central	136	136	136	136	136	136
Lake Shore	91½	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	99½					
Chicago & Northwestern	79¼	79¼	79¼	79¼	79¼	79¼
Do. preferred	81	81¼				
Rock Island	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
St. Paul	54¾	55¼				
Do. preferred	79½	80¾				
Toledo & Wabash	48½	48¾				
Do. preferred						
Fort Wayne	99½	99½				
Ohio & Mississippi	27¾	27¾				
Pacific Mail	49½	50¼				
Adams Express	64½	64¾				
Gold	119¾	119¾				

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's quotations shows the following changes:

	Tues.	Wed.	Adv.	Dec.
Central & Hudson	99¾	99¾		¼
Do. Scrip	83½	83½		¼
Erie	25¾	25¾	¼	
Reading	97¾	97¾	¼	
Harlem	130	130		
Illinois Central	136	136		
Lake Shore	91¾	91¾	¼	
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	99½			
Chicago & Northwestern	79¼	79¼		
Do. preferred	81	81¼	¼	
Rock Island	100½	100½		
St. Paul	54¾	55¼	½	
Do. preferred	79½	80¾	1¼	
Toledo & Wabash	48½	48¾	¼	
Do. preferred				
Fort Wayne	99½	99½		
Ohio & Mississippi	27¾	27¾		
Pacific Mail	49½	50¼	¾	
Adams Express	64½	64¾	¼	
Gold	119¾	119¾		

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	62½
Philadelphia and Erie	26¾
Lehigh Navigation	33½
Catawissa preferred	37½
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	45
Lehigh Valley Railroad	56½
North Pennsylvania Railroad	46
Camden and Amboy Railroad	116
Schuylkill Navigation	14½
Reading	49

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 40 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), deals in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, and buys and sells stocks on a margin for the usual commission, and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collaterals, or well indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

COAL MARKETT.

CINCINNATI.

December 27.—The supply is ample. The demand during the first part of the week was moderate but with the change in the weather the retail trade became very active. The rates are unchanged.

Youghiogheny, afloat, ₰ bush	6@6½c
Youghiogheny, delivered	10@14c
Coal River, afloat	6@6½c
Ohio River, delivered	10@14c
Cannel, delivered	20@25c
Anthracite, delivered, ₰ ton	$14 00

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, December 28.—The prevalence of a snow storm has intensified the dullness previously noticeable, and but little interest is being paid to the wants of any of stock, nor have we any change in prices to observe, except in Cotton yarn wide brown sheetings, which are lower, and are selling at the; but notwithstanding the general quiet, the aggregate of the transactions will be the usual in the domestic market for low priced goods.

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, December 28.—Tobacco firm and active; sales of 300 hhds at 5@8 75 for common to good logs; 9@14 75 for low to medium leaf. Bagging—demand fair with sales of 2,000 rolls at 36c. Bacon—clear sides in good demand; sales 1,000 hhds new pack at 20@20 cent. Bacon shoulders nothing doing. Hams—sugar cured

The Daily Commercial.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Opera House—Hasel's Base.
Library Hall—Miss Clara Louise Kellogg's Concerts.
Thursday, Varieties—Theatre.
Orchestra' Fair—Basement of St. Paul's Cathedral.
Mercantile Library Hall—Safranski's Japanese Troupe.
Fine and Festival—Eighth U. P. Church.
Masonic Hall—The Berger Family.
Academy of Music—European Novelties.
Clothing—Fisher Shooting Park.
Allegheny Park Property for Sale—2, 12 & C St. Banks.
Adjourned Meeting—Allegheny Bridge Co.
Redington in Town—T. C. Jenkins & Bro.
Dissolution of Copartnership—Allen Kirkpatrick & Co.
Fur and Hat Store—Wm. Fleming & Co.
Clothing—Uling, Rollandine & Co.
Brown's Bronchial Troches—Sold.
Election Notice—Peoples' Insurance Co.
Situation Wanted—L. J. H., Commercial office.
Bookkeeper Wanted—A. J. H., Mellon & Co.
Situation Wanted—Box 2219, Parker's Landing, Pa.
Situation Wanted—F., this office.
Bacon Shoulders—Jacob Dorna.
Hotel for Sale—William Chadwick.
Boarding Wanted—T. F. L., Allegheny.
Holiday Goods for Gentlemen—Putnam's.
Teas, Sugars, Molasses, Dilworth, Bissell & Co.
Pattern and Model Maker—S. L. Voss.
Holiday Presents—Chas. Abel & Co.
Wood Seating—Wm. Hamilton, Penn street.
Notice—Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Co.
National Insurance Company of Allegheny.
Boarding Wanted—A. F. Hunt, Allegheny.
Bolting and Hose for Sale—Hartley, McKee & Co.
Wood Sawing Machine—116 Market street.
Arsenical Creasote—Marcus's.
Episcopal Classical Academy—Begins January 2d.
Beaver Ladies' Seminary—Opens January 3.
Cashmere Bloom—Sold.
Cream Ale—Pile, Dunnals & Co.
Aerated Crackers—Marcus's.
Backbone—H. Hugh's Sons.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Observations Made by the Storm Signal Service of the United States Army.

Pittsburgh, December 28, 1870.	7.37 A. M.	4.35 P. M.	11.01 P. M.
Height of barometer	29.40	29.63	29.95
Change since last report	....	....	.06
Thermometer	25°	34°	32°
Change in last 24 hours	....	6°	8°
Direction of wind	N. W.	W.	W.
Velocity of wind—miles per hour	7	7	7
Pressure of wind—pounds per square foot	....	....	....
Force of wind reduced to Beaufort scale, approximately	3	3	3
Rainfall since last report—inches and hdths	0.01	0.05	0.01
State of weather	Cldy.	Cldy.	Cldy.

NOTES.—In the telegraphic reports, only the variations of the barometer since the last report are given; decrease being marked down, and increase through the table by the minus sign.

Character of the winds to more space, is indicated by letters of the alphabet, as follows: A, just perceptible; B, gently brisk; C, pleasant brisk; D, very brisk; E, high wind; F, very high wind; G, strong gale; H, violent gale; I hurricane; J, most violent hurricane.

State of the weather, in the same way, is indicated by numbers as follows: 1, clear; 2, fair; 3, light rain; 4, heavy rain; 5, snow.

JAMES WEST, Observer Sergeant.

Crowds of our most fashionable ladies daily visit the Philadelphia Emporium, at No. 76 Market street, where a large and beautiful stock of Straw and Millinery Goods is open for their inspection. The greatest bargain offered in the city are those Kid Gloves, which are now on sale at this house at cheaper rates than any other place. They are in all colors and makes. Call at the Philadelphia Emporium before buying elsewhere, as you are sure to be pleased.

Choice Reading.

The largest and selected stock of books upon every subject, can be obtained at J. K. Weldon & Co.'s No. 101 Wood street. Also, a large assortment of mathematic and instruments of every kind, legal paper, deeds, mortgages, and all kinds of blank legal paper, in all the different styles, always on hand. Every choice selection of Fancy Articles can be had for presents at this time, can be had from J. K. Weldon & Co., at their stationery and book store, 101 Wood street.

CALL INTO James R. Reed & Co.'s store, No. 66 Fifth avenue, and examine the large and beautiful stock of watches, diamonds, gold chains and chronometer, duplex, lever and other fine watches, which they have ready for the holidays, and just the thing for presents.

Prof. De Long's Dancing Academy at Lafayette Hall.

Second and last term of the season will commence Wednesday, January 4th, at 3 o'clock, P. M. Private lessons a full term all should commence at the beginning, as the season closes April 1st. Matinees Saturday afternoons, with an orchestra. Please call for circulars at the music stores.

CROWDS ON FIFTH STREET, and daily flocking to the jewelry store of James R. Reed & Co., No. 66 to buy a golden gift for some dear one as a memento of a merry Christmas. Go and see them.

A Beautiful and Acceptable Gift.

Nothing will be more acceptable at this time of the year than a Singer sewing machine. You should call immediately into the warerooms of Straw & Morton, No. 20 Sixth street, and see this popular machine work. It is sure to give every satisfaction to the recipient, and will be a beautiful as well as ornamental in the house. The Singer sewing machine exceeds all others by adaptability to all kinds of work.

BUY YOUR WIFE A PRESENT.—Go to James R. Reed & Co.'s Jewelry store, No. 66 Fifth avenue, and buy her a set of beautiful jewelry which they have for Christmas presents.

HAZARD & CASWELL'S Cod Liver Oil is the best. The

Public Amusements.

OPERA HOUSE.—"Hearts Ease," Lotta's new comedy, drew a large audience to the Opera House last evening, despite the unpleasant weather. The piece, like the actress, improves on better acquaintance, and was received very constantly discovered. The company also showed themselves worthy of the various parts. The audience were carried away, as all audiences are, by the fine acting and singing of the little sprite, Lotta. The comedy will be withdrawn after this evening, and those who have not yet heard it should go by all means. Lotta can be relied upon to benefit to-morrow evening, making her last appearance this season in this city.

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Jones, Jr., New Castle, Pa.	3
Kuspschat, Jno. R., Leechburg, Pa.	3
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THE ART GALLERY.

PICTURES ON THE WALL

A Complete Institution Formed Upon a Concession Plan

"A museum of art is a perpetual feast of the most inferior kind refined appetites to every one capable of entering into its pleasures of thought and execution, and of analyzing the external and internal being and tracing the mysterious transformations of spirit and matter."—Ruskin.

It has been well said that the best means of popularizing art and cultivating a general taste is by galleries or museums. Nothing tends more to the development of the latent, innate love of the beautiful common to mankind. "Respect for the beautiful is one of the deepest instincts of the various parts. The audience were carried away, as all audiences are, by the fine acting and singing of the little sprite, Lotta. The comedy will be withdrawn after this evening, and those who have not yet heard it should go by all means. Lotta can be relied upon to benefit to-morrow evening, making her last appearance this season in this city.

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CITY COUNCILS.

The Last Meeting of the Councils of 1870—Annual Reports—Unfinished Business—Report of A Special Committee—Report of the City Hall Commissioner—Ordinance Compensating Superintendent for Extra Services Defended—A Compliment to President McAuley, &c., &c.

The Select and Common Councils of the City of Pittsburgh held an adjourned meeting yesterday, Wednesday, December 28th, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

SELECT COUNCIL.

Members present—Messrs. Ahl, Ahlborn, Aiken, Armstrong, Bowman, Bell, Bidwell, Bowling, Edwards, Friday, Gallagher, Gross, Hartman, Herron, House, Jones, P. C., Jones, Isaac; Kehew, Kirk, Lambert, Liddell, Littell, Lloyd, Morrow, Murdoch, Murray, McEwen, McMahon, McCarthy, Rafferty, Schmidt, Scully, Snyder, Shipton, Thompson, Wainwright, S. J.; Wainwright, Z.; White and Wilson.

On motion of Mr. HERRON, the reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting was dispensed with.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Mr. HERRON moved that Council proceed to take up the unfinished business.

The motion was adopted and the following business from Common Council was taken up, and the bills, in detail, signed and advanced:

An ordinance fixing the salaries of clerks of Council for the ensuing year at $500. Passed finally.

An ordinance providing for the Pittsburgh Railway the right of way over certain streets, as described by Mr. JONES—changing the route to Fourth avenue from Water street.

Mr. McCARTHY offered an amendment requiring said company to remove their tracks from Second avenue between Grant and Try streets to Third avenue and Ross street, and from over the Duquesne Handle Railroad track at Try street and Third avenue.

The amendment was accepted and the ordinance as amended was passed finally.

An ordinance for the grading of Rose street. Laid over.

The ordinance granting the right of way over certain streets to the Allegheny and Manchester Passenger Railway Company was next taken up.

Mr. AIKEN moved to lay the ordinance on the table.

Mr. LITTELL asked leave to present a remonstrance against the passage of the same, which was granted.

Mr. ISAAC JONES then moved that the ordinance be laid upon the table for a time certain.

A petition from Hugh Myers & Co. for a reduction of city license tax was referred to the Finance Committee, with power to act.

An ordinance amending the contract for construction of a sewer on Seventh street. Passed finally.

Mr. E. P. JONES moved its final passage.

Mr. McCARTHY moved to amend that the ordinance be postponed. Lost.

The question was then on the original motion to pass finally, and Mr. SIGEL called the yeas and nays with the following result:

YEAS—Messrs. Ahl, Ahlborn, Aiken, Armstrong, Bowman, Bell, Bidwell, Bowling, Edwards, Friday, Gallagher, Gross, Hartman, Herron, House, Jones, P. C., Kehew, Liddell, Littell, Lloyd, Morrow, Murdoch, Murray, McEwen, McMahon, McCarthy, Rafferty, Schmidt, Scully, Snyder, Shipton, Thompson, Wainwright, S. J.; Wainwright, Z.; White and Wilson—39.

NAYS—Messrs. Jones, Isaac; Kirk, Lambert, Sigel, Wainwright, White—5.

So the rules were not suspended, and the resolution laid over.

REPORT OF CITY HALL COMMISSION.

Mr. HOUSE presented the report of the City Hall Commission as follows:

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 28, 1870.

To the Select and Common Councils of the City of Pittsburgh.

GENTLEMEN:—In accordance with the provisions of the law for the erection of a City Hall, I transmit herewith a report of all monies received and expended by the Commissioners, from the 1st day of May, 1868, with an exhibit of what each division of labor and material cost.

Respectfully submitted,

THOS. PETERS,
Secretary of Board of City Hall Commissioners.

Treasurer of the Commissioners, in Account with the Commissioners for the Erection of a City Hall, 1869. Dec. 24, to balance ..... $ 1,353 92
1870. Dec. 24, to building tax 1,769 15
1870. Dec. 28, to cash from Secretary of the Commission 200,480 00

1870.—By warrants paid—
Jan. 5, James Todd, watchman, $ 62 00
Jan. 5, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
Feb. 5, James Todd, watchman 62 00
Feb. 5, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
Feb. 28, Pittsburgh Gas Co., interest temporary loan 223 75
Mar. 5, Henry Evans, watchman, 1st temp. loan 62 00
Mar. 9, Henry Evans, watchman 56 00
Mar. 9, James Todd, watchman 56 00
April 4, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
April 4, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
April 4, James Todd, watchman 62 00
April 14, J. C. Smiths, iron work 2,500 00
May 2, Henry Evans, watchman 60 00
May 2, James Todd, watchman 60 00
June 8, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
June 8, James Todd, watchman 62 00
June 11, Henderson, Mackin & Co., stone-work 18,896 00
June 11, Ecker & Sons, brickwork 1,586 00
June 11, Ecker & Sons, brickwork 1,567 00
June 11, Ecker & Sons, brickwork 403 00
June 11, Adam C. Ferguson, carpenter-work 1,090 00
June 11, J. C. Smiths, iron work 417 00
June 11, H. Gerwig, ropes 19 50
June 11, Pittsburgh Gas Co., ropes 35 00
June 11, J. W. Kerr, architect 500 00
July 1, Lyon, Shorb & Co. final payment for Court-house 34,228 75
July 1, Henderson, Mackin & Co., stone-work 10,000 00
July 1, Ecker & Sons, brickwork 2,586 00
July 1, Ecker & Sons, brickwork 2,086 00
July 1, Adam C. Ferguson, carpenter-work 417 00
July 1, C. Smiths, iron work 1,297 00
July 1, Safe Deposit Company 945 61
July 1, Moore & Richardson 60 00
July 1, James Todd, watchman 60 00
July 1, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
July 6, Temporary loan 9,500 00
July 6, Temporary loan 3,000 00
July 15, Temporary loan 100 00
July 15, Burke & Barnes, safes 3,000 00
July 29, Temporary loan 41,000 00
July 29, Henderson, Mackin & Co., stone-work 17,740 00
Aug. 8, Ecker & Sons, brick work 1,256 00
Aug. 8, J. C. Schmitz, iron work 8,266 00
Aug. 8, Administrator of C. Ferguson, carpenter work 240 00
Aug. 9, Pittsburgh Gas Company 110 60
Aug. 9, Dilworth, Bissell & Co., ropes 26 10
Aug. 9, A. Fulton's Sons & Co. 78 21
Aug. 9, J. W. Kerr, architect 500 00
Aug. 9, James Todd, watchman 62 00
Aug. 9, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
Sept. 5, Administrator of C. Ferguson, carpenter work 298 00
Sept. 5, James Todd, watchman 62 00
Sept. 5, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
Sept. 5, J. C. Schmitz, iron work 1,348 00
Oct. 5, Henry Evans, watchman 60 00
Oct. 5, James Todd, watchman 60 00
Oct. 5, J. W. Kerr, architect 500 00
Oct. 5, J. C. Schmitz, iron work 2,217 00
Oct. 5, Fulton, Bollman & Co., ropes 25 42
Oct. 5, A. Fulton & Co. 15 80
Nov. 5, Adam C. Ferguson, carp'r wk. 1,448 00
Nov. 5, James Todd, watchman 60 00
Nov. 5, Henry Evans, watchman 62 00
Dec. 6, James Todd, Watchman, ... 60 00
Dec. 6, Henry Evans, Watchman, ... 60 00
Dec. 6, Administratrix of C. Ferguson, carpenter work 815 00
Dec. 6, J. C. Schultz, iron work, ... 4,041 00
Dec. 6, W. J. Anderson & Co., castings, ... 2,500 00
Dec. 6, Kim & Swartz, Bh work 1,300 00
Dec. 6, Ecker & Son, brick work 1,000 00
Dec. 6, Henderson, Mackin & Co., stone-work 41,000 00
Dec. 6, Administratrix of C. Ferguson, carpenter work 2,000 00
Dec. 6, J. C. Schultz, iron work, ... 5,000 00
Dec. 6, Ecker & Son, brick work 41,879 32
Balance, ... 7,

Total $414,688 87

EXPENDITURES.

February ..... $ 372 19
March 176 00
April 143 33
May 156 83
June 148 33
July 143 33
August 92 50
September 159 80
October 598 31
November 134 33
December 562 83

Total $4,004 19
Appropriation 4,000 00

Balance 4 19

AMOUNT OVERDRAWN.

The rates of wharfage are as follows:
Transportation boats or barges ..... 16c per ton.
Tow boats ..... 6 " "
For laying up ..... 6c per month.
Harbor boats ..... $25 per year.
Coal, brick, and other flats ..... 50 " "
The report was received and ordered to be presented.

SPECIAL REPORT.

Mr. BURGWIN, chairman of the special committee appointed to investigate the claims of John Flinn, for extra work done on the Fifth avenue sewer, presented the following report:

Your committee to whom was referred the petition and claim of John Flinn for an allowance on account of work done and materials furnished by him in the construction of the First avenue sewer, respectfully report:

We have carefully examined the different items of Mr. Flinn's claim, being aided in our examination by Mr. Jeffery Attorney, Mr. Singer, and the city engineer, Mr. Moore, who were in attendance at our request, and to our conclusion is that Mr. Flinn is only entitled to be paid by the city the amount which he contends.

The items are as follows:

1st. For placing gravel twice or thrice upon the railroad track to make it passable while the work was in progress, and work done under the direction of the Superintendent $1,471 25

2d. Placing flag stone crossings at direction of City Engineer 601 40

3d. Extra work done by direction of City Engineer in construction of sewer, rendered necessary by change in original plan, by reason of peculiar nature of the soil..... 3,801 00

Amounting in all to..... $5,873 65

The principle on which we have arrived at the conclusion that the city should pay the claim, is this: That when a contractor on good faith to work outside of his contract under direction of the city officials having general superintendence and direction of such work, both parties being under the mistaken supposition that such work was in the contract, the city is bound to pay for such work in equity and good conscience, at least even though unable in point of law to collect it by assessment upon the property owners benefited by the construction of the sewer.

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the annexed resolution.

H. BURGWIN,
JOHN FLEMING,
J. M. GAZZAM,
BERNARD RAFFERTY,
Committee.

December 28, 1870.

The following resolution accompanied the report:

Resolved, That the Controller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of John Flinn for the sum of $5,873 65, to be accepted by him in full of all claims and demands against the city of Pittsburgh on account of extra work done and materials furnished by him in and about the construction of First avenue sewer, said payment to be charged to appropriation No. 7.

The report was received.

Mr. BURGWIN moved to indefinitely postpone the resolution. Lost.

Mr. RAFFERTY moved to amend by adding the digest the information thus obtained, so as to deduce from it a price for the water we have, that we can recommend as the best attainable. More time is absolutely necessary for this purpose, as we are unable at present to say how many or what our plans and estimates will be completed, but we hope in January, and promise that no unnecessary delay shall take place, as far as it may be in our power to prevent it. We are pleased to state that the work with us have been diligent and faithful in the past.

The total length of lines surveyed and levelled, up to the 1st of this month, was forty-six miles; besides a series of levels run through the most of the streets and known highways in the city limits. In addition to this, much time has been and labor spent in obtaining and mapping useful and important information, furnished by other of the City Engineer, and that of the Superintendent of the City Water Works. In order to make the present report as full and clear as far as possible, in planning the new water works, I was not unwilling to have had both.

Much has been done by the City Engineer, Mr. H. Moore, and his principal assistant, Mr. W. H. Kennedy, in the location of the new portions of the city, as well as some of the old, but no satisfactory plans, suitable for any one purpose, of any portion of the city, could be found. We feel that in this matter, while the Board of Water Commissioners have been understanding, they have been hindered by other city government, these departments will in turn have to wait upon the labors of others.

Samples of water have been obtained from the Allegheny, Monongahela, Youghiogheny, and Niskinimita rivers, and pumping with Professor Wm. Jones.

The inmates of the Widows' Home, Webster street, have tendered a unanimous vote of thanks to the ladies who have had them supplied with a dinner, and also to those who provided the fowls for their Christmas dinner.

CONSTABLE BOYLE, of the Allegheny Suspension Bridge, arrested a man named Frank O'Neil, yesterday, for refusing to pay toll upon crossing the bridge. The pedestrian was taken before the Mayor who imposed upon him a fine of five dollars and costs.

Two men, named respectively Louis Fisher and Amos Minstoff, were engaged yesterday in "cutting" one, when an officer came along and arrested both, as was alleged before the Mayor on oath of Fisher, Minstoff struck him with his ice hook. Warrant issued.

A MILKMAN named George King and a butcher named Joseph Kirkpatrick, were trying their strength on Christmas, when by some means King threw his friend violently on the ground inflicting severe injuries. The defeated wrestler was taken into a house near by and medical aid summoned, when he was removed to his home. He threatened to prosecute King, but that gentleman agreed to pay him twenty-five dollars and also settle the doctor bill, when he decided not to bring the suit.

AMUSEMENTS

OPERA HOUSE.

Lessees and Managers.....HENDERSON & CANNING.

Last Night but two of the Charming and Brilliant

LOTTA.

THURSDAY EVENING, December 29th, last night of the popular Drama, written expressly for LOTTA, entitled

HEART'S EASE.

May Wyldrose.....Lotta.
Holly Bush Sohns, Songs, Dooits and Dances.
FRIDAY—FAREWELL BENEFIT OF LOTTA.
Lotta Farewell Matinee on Saturday.
Monday Afternoon—UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

TRIMBLE'S VARIETIES.

FRED. AIMS.....MANAGER.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!
ENTIRE NEW BILL!
Great Central Variety Theater,
Popular Resort of All Classes.
GLORIOUS HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENTS. GREAT VARIETY SHOW. NEW ARTISTS.
Miss Kitty Le Roy, Mlle. Gracie, Physical Wonder, Martha Wren, Fanny Wood, Tilly Prestage, Vivian, Collins, Comical, Brown and other artistes.
Saturday Matinee. New Year's, 2:30.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

ENTERPRISE. | ENTERPRISE.
NEW ALL NEW
NEW ALL NEW
Another Sensation,
See Programmes. See Programmes.

Mercantile Library Lectures.

LECTURE BY

GEORGE VANDENHOFF,

AT

Mercantile Library Hall,

ON

Tuesday Evening, January 3d, 1871.

Subject—"IRISH BULLS AND FACETIA OF ALL NATIONS."

AND ON THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 5, 1871, "The Comedy and Tragedy of Charles